



SUGAR and PLANTATION NEWS



WILLET & GRAY ON NEW YORK MARKET

Prices Rule Strong — Outlook Good For Continuance of High Values

Sales in the New York market for the week ending May 29 were 445,000 bags Cuban and Porto Rican and 900 tons St. Croix and San Domingo.

Willet & Gray's report states that the business of the week was on a par with that of the preceding weeks of the last two or three months. In part the report says:

"The weekly cable from Cuba, giving increased receipts, brings the present visible crop up to within 120,736 tons of the last crop, at corresponding date. Increased offerings of both Cuban and Porto Rican at 3 1/2 c. and 4.80 c. followed, and a seller accepted from an operator 1-10c per lb. concession for 5000 bags Cuban, affixed, at 3.15-10c c. & f., making market quotation again 4.85c per lb.

Ups and Downs

"On Wednesday morning the market was easier, with several sellers at 4.85c, but on receipt of several cables from Cuba reporting heavy rains in Cuba, with consequent interruption in grinding, the market became firmer, with nothing for sale under 4.80c.

"Futures for June shipment were, however, well sustained and sold at an advance to 4.95c for 35,000 bags to an outport. Late June Porto Ricans sold Howell at the same figure.

"Today the unfavorable Cuban news had further effect, nearby sugars selling to operators at 4.80c and June shipment at 4.95c.

Notwithstanding that English statistics show that Great Britain has already secured sufficient raw supplies for several months to come, that country continues the policy of constantly looking further ahead at present basis of values, which are in her favor in Cuba for raw sugar, as against other sources of supply.

"Unconfirmed rumors place English purchases during the week of Cuba for June-July shipments at 30,000 tons, at 3.75c f. o. b. Cuba.

English Consumption Large

"The consumption of sugar in Great Britain is unusually large, 187,000 tons raw value, including molasses, or 161,000 tons refined for April, but due perhaps to an expectation of an increase of duty on sugar which, however, was not made.

It is the usual custom in England to bring down the "Budget" the early part of May, in this Budget it is also usual to announce changes in tariff rates.

"Last year, instead of an increase being expected, it was thought the sugar duty would be reduced, and consumption fell off materially, but when it was known that the duty would remain unchanged, the consumption increased rapidly, the figures for May reaching 218,751 tons raw or 196,092 tons refined value.

"In this connection, our Liverpool correspondents write under date of May 8, 1915: "As no change was made in the duties, dealers are now busy disposing of their purchases, and demand has slackened."

Cuban Mills Busy

"As the Cuban centrals continue working in larger numbers than last year, the weekly receipts and stocks make large increases, the stocks in Cuba and the United States together are now 1,134,229 tons, against 1,107,029 tons at this time last year.

"3,000 tons full-duty sugar were sold for use for exports this week at 4.80c to 4.95c per lb. duty paid, for Cuban or Porto Rican.

"Atlantic port receipts for the week were 84,197 tons, against 82,197 tons last week, and stock increases 22,197 tons to 351,263 tons, against 314,464 tons last week.

"Messrs. Guma-Meyer wired the Cuban conditions late yesterday as follows: Heavy rain yesterday. Centrals closing rapidly; 147 Centrals working, against 66 last year and 111 in 1913.

"Advices from Germany report that there is much scarcity of labor to handle the growing beet crop.

Refined

"All list prices have remained at 6.00c, less 2 1/2 c. for the week, although it has been possible, in instances at least, to have orders booked at 5.90c less 2 per cent, but it becomes more difficult to do this at the close, and there is some suggestion of a higher list price ere long. The Pennsylvania Company, Philadelphia, advanced to 6.10c, regular terms.

"Withdrawals under last contracts are rather disappointing because of the continued unusually cold weather of this month of May.

"Export business with France has been put through to the extent of 10,000 tons refined at under 4.00c to 4.70c per lb. f. o. b., net cash, in hand, and further enquiries are on the market.

Cuban Weather

"According to special reports received by us from all parts of the island for the week ending May 11, 1915.—Extremely hot weather has marked the week in many sections, and has interfered somewhat with work of all kinds. Light to moderate rains have also occurred at many points, especially in the east. The heaviest precipitation reported was about 2.00 inches in 24 hours, at Camaguey. Under these conditions harvesting and planting are making fair but irregular progress. Conditions are, however, very favorable for the growth of next crop, which has made excellent progress so far.

From Germany, F. O. Licht reports

Oahu Engineer Invents High-Lift Pump Valve

E. M. Scoville, consulting engineer of the Oahu Sugar Company, has invented a new valve for use on the Riedler pump. A sample of his invention was exhibited at the last annual meeting of the Hawaiian Engineering Association. It has now been in use on the big Riedler high lift pumps in Waipahu for ten months, and has stood the test of practical work in a highly satisfactory manner.

The Riedler pump, manufactured by the ABIS-Chalmers Company of Chicago, has proved far superior to other high lift pumps because it was fitted with mechanical valves. So long as these worked satisfactorily it delivered water with higher efficiency than other types not provided with mechanical valves.

The Hall valve, which is the one which has been the type commonly used on Riedler pumps, has to be reground at frequent intervals. Its shank, or movable bearing, is very narrow, allowing considerable play and wear after long use. Also the Hall valve delivers its water at right angles to the axis of the valves, so that where two valves are side by side on a cylinder head the streams from each meet in the same plane, retarding delivery and reducing the working efficiency of the pump.

Better Than Hall Valve

The new Scoville valve has a long shank. The valve seat is beveled so that the stream from adjoining valves do not impinge against one another, head-on, as is the case in the Hall valve. Furthermore, just outside the bearing seat there is a circular rubber washer which fits into a channel in the metal, extending about a quarter inch above.

The valve seat is metal. When the valve closes the back pressure forces the rubber collar against the outer edge of the seat and prevents leakage. The beveled metal valve seat may thus become lined and channeled from use without actually lowering the efficiency of the delivery.

A Scoville valve on the big Riedler pump at Waipahu has been estimated to have opened and shut twenty-nine million times in the ten months since its was installed, without impairing its working efficiency.

Experts Approve Invention

Mr. Strothingham, head engineer of the Allis-Chalmers Company, and the chief engineer of the International Pump Company have both pronounced the Scoville invention a marked improvement over any form of mechanical valve previously devised.

Catton, Neill & Co. of this city have been appointed Mr. Scoville's agents for the placing of this invention, which is destined to find wide use wherever the Riedler pump is used.

under date of April 23: In spite of some cold, rainy weather, warm, sunny days predominated during the past week, and on the whole, conditions favored field work, which made good progress. There were unfavorable conditions, both at the beginning and end, owing to rain, and at times snow, which, especially in the southeast, made much of the land unworkable. But, for the greater part, field work was favored and in some sections beet seedling is well under way. Everywhere the lack of labor and animals is apparent, but it is hoped that some farm labor will be furnished from duty at the front and sent home to help with the planting, so that arrangements in general can take a more orderly course.

The work is, however, easier than it might be, as the soil is loose from the frequent rains and easy to work, as soon as dry enough, so that one hopes that the warm, dry weather will continue and permit the present backwardness to be made up. The winter grain came through the cold in good shape, so that little of it will be plowed under and replaced by beets. A reliable estimate of the size of the sowings is very difficult this year as many beets are being sown as a speculation, without contracts, something done to but a small extent heretofore. However, a decrease of twenty per cent from last year still seems probable.

Opening the Dardanelles

The London Mail of May 6 says: "Prohibition of imports continues, and it is believed that government purchases will be sufficient to supply our refineries with raw sugars until October or November. It is quite impossible to say, even approximately, what has been the extent of government purchases. Personally we are inclined to think they have not bought more than 250,000 tons of new crop Java, but it is then in some quarters that they have secured as much as 400,000 tons, besides further supplies from Cuba. As our refineries can only supply (roughly) half of our requirements in the shape of white sugars, it will be necessary to import largely to supply the deficiency."

"It is hoped that the Dardanelles will be cleared for traffic within two or three months, and the effect of this operation would probably be to release 150,000,000 tons of Russian crystals, which would be a useful addition to our white sugar supply. Some of the Javans are white sugars and could be used as refined sugar. Lastly, the Mauritius crop, which commences in August, has so far not been dealt with, and there is always the possibility that our government may again secure practically the whole crop, as was the case last year."

To May 1 the Great Western Sugar Company had contracted for 127,500 acres of beets for the 1915-16 campaign, of which 65,000 acres were already planted. The Billings Sugar Company had contracted for 24,000 acres, 8,000 of which were planted, and the Scottsbluff Sugar Company had contracted for 33,350 acres, 11,200 of which were planted.

Notes from the press: From all sections of California come reports that the beet crop is growing splendidly. Near Visalia the April rains and weather conditions since have greatly improved crop prospects. Early in April roots were knee high and on May 6 weighed a pound. The factory at Belteravia is now expected to start slicing about August 1, or a month earlier than last year. Beets promise to give a heavy yield.

REST AND PEACE

Fall upon distracted households when Cuticura enters.

All that the fondest of mothers desires for the alleviation of her skin-tortured and disfigured infant is to be found in warm baths with CUTICURA SOAP.

And gentle anointings with Cuticura Ointment.

CATTON, NEILL AGENTS

The Searby Shredder, for the manufacture of which Catton, Neill & Company are the exclusive agents, is now installed in six mills in Hawaii and negotiations are in progress for its use elsewhere. This company has the agency for all the cane countries as well as for Hawaii.

Record and Forecast of Hawaiian Sugar Crops as of Uneven Dates to May 3, 1915

The Hawaiian sugar plantation fiscal year is from Oct. 1 to Sept. 30. There are forty-five sugar mills in Hawaii. In addition thereto, there are seven independent cane plantations, whose cane is ground on shares, who do business on such a large scale that their share of sugar is listed separately. Planters without mills or not grinding their own cane are indicated hereunder by a *.

Statistics are of tons of 2000 lbs. each. At this date all plantations are grinding.

NAME OF PLANTATION.	Crop of 1914—Tons of Sugar Oct. 1, 1913, to Sept. 30, 1914.	Crop of 1913—Tons of Sugar Shipped Oct. 1, 1912, to May 31, 1913.	Crop of 1912—Tons of Sugar Shipped Oct. 1, 1911, to May 31, 1912.
*Apokaa Sugar Co.	925	450	22
*Estate V. Knudsen	992	930	372
Ewa Plantation Co.	29,663	30,000	18,320
*Gay & Robinson	5,132	5,000	4,785
*Oahu Farm Plantation	4,413	4,800	3,013
Hawaiian Agricultural Co.	17,800	18,000	6,136
Hawaiian Commercial & Sugar Co.	56,500	55,000	41,237
Hawaiian Sugar Co.	56,426	21,000	14,714
Hawaii Mill Co.	3,501	3,000	1,095
Hauakua Mill Co.	7,057	11,500	5,613
Halawa Plantation	2,087	1,600	1,000
Hahala Plantation Co.	10,803	16,500	10,119
Hilo Sugar Co.	18,937	13,300	10,521
Honokaa Sugar Co.	7,272	10,000	10,174
Kipahulu Sugar Mill	6,250	7,000	4,390
Hilo Mill & Plantation Co.	6,250	8,600	6,160
Honoma Sugar Co.	8,567	9,000	1,206
Hutchinson Sugar Plantation Co.	5,909	8,000	11,208
Honolulu Plantation Co.	20,154	19,000	11,291
Kilauea Sugar Plantation Co.	6,426	5,800	1,684
Kipahulu Sugar Co.	2,126	2,500	3,500
Kawalek Plantation Co.	6,235	5,500	6,470
Kahuku Plantation Co.	8,193	7,000	5,361
Kolon Sugar Co.	8,572	8,500	9,692
Kekaha Sugar Co.	17,153	13,100	2,966
Kohala Sugar Co.	4,500	4,500	488
Kona Development Co.	4,475	4,200	3,571
Kaunakakai Sugar Co.	4,932	7,000	2,273
Kukui Sugar Co.	3,225	3,700	50
*Koolau Agricultural Co.	1,137	600	7,837
Laupahoehoe Sugar Co.	11,193	11,300	13,375
Lihue Plantation Co.	22,065	20,000	1,038
*Lala Plantation	1,600	1,600	5,682
Maale Sugar Co.	10,680	10,000	26,228
Maui Agricultural Co.	33,680	34,000	8,201
McBryde Sugar Co.	16,345	15,000	1,000
Niihau Mill & Plantation	2,700	2,500	18,871
Oahu Sugar Co.	33,474	32,000	14,616
Olae Sugar Co.	25,736	18,500	1,618
Olae Sugar Co.	2,027	1,850	1,618
Onomea Sugar Co.	19,600	18,000	11,253
Pahoa Sugar Plantation Co.	10,767	10,000	8,235
Pioneer Mill Co.	28,302	28,000	18,529
Popeo Sugar Co.	9,806	10,500	6,100
*Puakea Plantation	1,035	1,200	525
Union Mill Co.	2,608	3,000	1,717
Waialeale Mill Co.	14,922	14,000	9,316
Waialeale Sugar Co.	16,100	15,000	13,799
Waialeale Agricultural Co.	30,208	31,000	16,261
Waialeale Sugar Mill Co.	3,083	4,500	1,706
Waialeale Co.	5,133	4,800	2,251
Waialeale Sugar Co.	2,258	1,900	1,103
Total	617,026	612,530	379,722

SHARE SYSTEM OF SOUTH IS A LOSING GAME

A scientific analysis of the cost of tenant farming in the cotton growing states recently conducted by the U. S. Department of Agriculture indicates that in the long run the Southern land owner loses more than he makes by having his land worked on the share system. The average negro tenant farm is twenty acres, of which fourteen acres are usually in cotton and the balance in corn. An average crop return in normal years is seven bales of cotton, three and a half tons of cotton seed and 120 bushels of corn, worth gross \$560, or an average value of \$27.90.

The land owner's cost of production averages \$5 per acre rent, \$100; over-seeing, \$60; one mule, its feed and care, \$150; use of implements and harness, \$20; house rent, \$24; fuel, \$12; pasture, \$24; repairs and overhead charges, \$40; seed, \$22; bags and ties, \$40—a total of \$461 for half the crop. The negro tenant supplies labor, \$182; and bags and ties, \$9, for his half of the crop.

Share System Unprofitable

The investigator states that it is impossible under the share system to have the best use made of the land. The tenants cannot be induced to spend enough labor on crop production to grow more than average yields. The only hope for that portion of the South where tenant farming is the vogue to bring up the value of the land or the crops is to entirely discard the share system and substitute corporation farming and the payment of cash day wages.

The average outlay per acre per annum that the land owning planter would have to pay would be somewhat higher than under the half-share system, but in exchange he would get the whole of considerably increased crops so that his farming would be much more profitable.

Manila Cable News—American, May 7.—The appointment is expected in a few days of a special Philippine labor commissioner for Hawaii to look after the interests of the Filipinos who have been recruited by the Hawaiian Sugar Planters' Association, and whose treatment in the sugar fields has been the source of considerable criticism for several months past.

It is understood that Dr. Alejandro Albert is to be given the position, and that his duty will be to act as an intermediary between the laborers from these islands and their employers. He will be given full power to act upon their complaints and to settle such disputes as may arise between them that can be settled out of court.

He will probably have his headquarters in Honolulu.

The body of Mrs. Mary Anderson Smith, who died at the Queen's Hospital Saturday, was taken to San Francisco on the steamer Maru yesterday morning. Mrs. Smith was removed from the Tenyo Maru two weeks ago when that steamer reached port from the Orient. The body was taken through on the through ticket from the Orient.

SUCROSE INCREASES WITH HOT WEATHER

The weather conditions have been dry and hot for the whole group during the past week. Kau is the only district which has had good rains. Heavy showers in the forest belt above Pahala have helped on the water supply of the plantation and the mill is again grinding full capacity. Elsewhere the streams are running dry but as John Waterhouse said yesterday the dry weather does not effect this year's crop except to help the sugar yields. Almost two-thirds of the entire Hawaiian crop is now bagged and on its way to market.

G. H. Robertson said that all canes are showing splendid sucrose. "It is fun to make sugar out of the cane when it is in good humor," he said.

SPECIAL COMMISSIONER TO LOOK AFTER THE COMPLAINTS OF FILIPINOS

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PLANTERS ON BIG ISLAND

Are Happy, Says Manager John A. Scott—Splendid Crop Outlook

John A. Scott, of Hilo, stated yesterday that the cane in the Hilo district is in splendid shape. Thus far Hilo has had less rain than Hamakua. The prevailing warmth and sunshine have materially increased yields and purity and all plantations will outturn more sugar than their original estimates called for.

Not only is the 1915 crop good; the 1916 holds are improving every day. The 1917 plant cane is well started. All the windward plantations have their cultivation better in hand than has been the case at this season for several years. The streams are low, or at least some of them are, Mr. Scott said, but even should the harvesting be delayed by shortage of flood water this might not be a serious matter considering the trend of the market and the probable maintenance of the price levels.

Hilo Making Solid Gains

Hilo is growing steadily and consistently as crop conditions in the tributary country warrant that the city should grow, Manager Scott said. The federal building is well under way and the brickwater contractors are pushing a good getting ready to place the superstructure of lava blocks on the completed sub-base.

The contractor who is building the caseways and road to the new wharf has his work well along. The wharf shed materials are being assembled and as soon as the approaches are finished that work will be begun and pushed rapidly to completion.

Altogether, Mr. Scott said, Hilo has fine prospects and is going to make a solid, substantial growth between now and 1920. When the breakwater is completed Hilo will have the best harbor in Hawaii and is bound to get a share of the trans-Pacific trading and supply trade.

With further railroad development and extension to connect all the outside districts with the trans-Pacific line, a development which will be delayed but which is bound to come, Hilo's solid future is looking up.

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THE BLACK BLIGHTS OR FUMAGINES

Indirect Injury Due To Cloaking the Cane Leaves From Sunlight

Not Themselves Parasitic But a Sure Sign of Hoppers' and Pests

The influence of the fumagine fungi which grow on the surface of leaves in the excreted sugary juices from leaf-hoppers, plant-lice and other sucking insect pests of crops has been investigated by G. Nicholas, a French botanist.

It has been generally held that the fumagine fungi are injurious because the thick black coating which they form on the leaves of coffee, cane and other plants are injurious chiefly because they hinder assimilation and respiration. This idea was not based on any precise observations, so Nicholas undertook experiments to determine the exact injury that does take place.

Scientific Results

The experimenter worked with orange, oleander, olive, guava, gardenia and several ornamentals. Leaves covered with fumagine were divided in two, one half being freed from the fungus. The two halves or symmetrical portions of them were placed in glass tubes containing air of known analysis, saturated with moisture and containing eight to ten per cent of carbonic acid gas, from which all green plants compound starch and sugar in the presence of sunlight. Two analyses of the amount of gas removed by each half of each leaf were made.

M. Nicholas found marked retardation of the life process of the leaf in all cases where the fumagine fungi were present. The adverse influence of the black coating was in direct proportion to its thickness and density.

Black Blight Secondary

The fumagines or "black blights," as they are called in Hawaii, are entirely external to the leaves of plants. In habit they are "saprophytes," or microscopic plants living on dead food as distinguished from the "parasites," which get their food from living sources.

Their presence indicates an epidemic of some insect pest which lives by sucking the juices from the leaves and stems of plants. In a cane field the black blight or fumagine on leaf and cane is a pretty sure indication of a new outbreak of leaf-hopper. On coffee the fumagine is a tell-tale sign of the presence of plant-lice, mealy-bugs, scales, or the torpid bug.

Insect pests of this class make no use of the sugar in the plant juices which they suck. They are after the albumen in the plant juices. Straining the cane juice through its digestive apparatus the leaf-hopper uses the albuminous portion of the cane juice to build up its own body tissues and excretes the sugar in almost pure form as glucose. Bees, ants and other insects feed on the glucose excreted and the fumagines grow rapidly in it.

Tell-Tale for Pests

The average observer places more blame on the fumagine than on the insect pest which is the first cause of the damage to his crops. The botanist has long known that the black blights are not parasitic but are only an index of the presence of a dangerous pest but they do injure the plants on which they grow because they screen the leaves from the sunlight and prevent healthy growth.

Whenever there is an outbreak of fumagine on any crop the planter should call in an entomologist to diagnose the trouble. The black blight would not grow on the leaves and cloak them from the sunshine if leaf-hoppers, aphids, torpid bugs and other pests had not paved the way and provided a coating of glucose for the fumagines to grow in.

MACHINE SHOPS BUSY WITH MILL ORDERS

J. J. Heisterman, manager of the Honolulu Iron Works, said yesterday that enough orders are now on hand to keep the shops busy for the rest of this year.

The company is building a large size multiple effect for the Ewa Plantation Company, a new three-roller mill and a quadruple effect for the Waialeale Sugar Company, and a vacuum pan for the Hawaiian Sugar Company. Sunday minor orders in the way of replacements and new machinery are also in progress for other plantations.

The Hilo branch shops of the company are crowded with work. Manager George D. Russell has been here several days consulting with the directors of the company and arranging for new machinery to increase the capacity of the Hilo shops so as to be able to take care of all the work that is coming.

The advertising and subscription committee of the chamber of commerce at a meeting held yesterday approved the offer of the Paradise Tours Company, as an advertising medium.